

Mayor Bradshaw

**BRAZIL CITY PARKS & RECREATION BOARD
OCTOBER 7, 2009**

- President Ruthann Jeffries called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.
- **The September and Special Meeting minutes were read and approved.**
- **George Kumpf, Connie McClure, and Linda Messmer—all members of the Brazil High School class of 1962—and park officials and patrons gathered outside City Hall for a newspaper photo-op. The occasion was the new memorial bench on display, which will be the official bench for the Bench Band shell Project.**
- **Back inside, Linda Messmer gave the Treasurer's Report.**

NON-REVERTING FUND

Beginning Balance September 1, 2009.....	\$15,909.27
Revenue.....	\$302.02
Disbursements.....	<u>(\$3,320.00)</u>
Ending Balance September 30, 2009.....	\$12,891.29

PARK & RECREATION BOARD FUND

Beginning Balance September 1, 2009.....	(\$31,568.89)
Revenue.....	\$31,980.15
Disbursements.....	<u>(\$35,906.83)</u>
Ending Balance September 30, 2009.....	(\$35,495.57)

The Fish Day Moore Funeral Home check has been placed in the wrong account which makes the non-reverting fund \$75 short. As usual, the expenditure and encumbrance lists were scrutinized and several items will be researched. While reviewing the expenditure lists, it was noted that Ben Sowers of BLS Contractors reduced his bill for work with the new frost-free hydrants by \$500 which he donated to the park. He was publicly thanked.

The Spear Corp. send back a check, which was the incorrect amount. A new check will be issued.

- **Superintendent's Report—Bill Houck**
The Rotary's 4th Celebration clean up and repair is finished. The statement of expenses was finalized and submitted through the City Clerk's Office. The bill has been paid by Rotary, and the check was given to Ray Staub of the Clerk's Office.
The new swings are in.
Vandalism is still a problem—broken window in pavilion, broken pickets on bridges and gazebo. However, graffiti and restroom vandalism is down.
The "Pitch and Put" Course at Craig Park has not been developed or used; however, it has been mowed the entire summer.

Park employees are reluctant to go inside the zoo building for fear of histoplasmosis.

The 21 new frost-free faucets are installed and landscaping finished around the excavation.

Some holes in the CYL parking lot have been filled with sand. Work is not completed.

The large cracks in the pool house restrooms have been filled.

The picket fence around the lily pond has been repaired, scraped, and painted. Debbie Burns did the painting, and Ed Holt made and installed 24 new pickets. Service workers did most of the scraping.

Heavy rain is forecast for the next couple of days. Mr. Houck will check the softball field for surface water runoff.

- Under audience comments, Christmas in the Park representative John Day requested permission to have Clover Signs put up the lights on the large Norway Spruce early. The Board agreed to the request.
- George Kumpf of the Memorial Bench Committee presented a new bench purchased by the class of 1962. He wanted Board feedback about the bench, which got overwhelming approval. The bench normally costs \$750 but if 100 are ordered the cost would be \$500. The handsome bench is "green," made from recycled plastic and is comfortable and indestructible. Mr. Kumpf has talked with various organizations across the country that own these benches, and he did not get one negative comment. Since the Clay Community Parks has a 501C3 number, they will be handling the finances. This will make the donations tax exempt and tax deductible. Mike Lawson of Riddell National Bank has asked for a bench to be displayed in the bank's lobby. Twenty benches have been sold, and the Bench Committee is moving ahead at full speed and is expecting Phase 1 to be completed by the first band concert in 2010. Mrs. McClure will have her artist's rendition of the entire project at the band shell. This will be on display at the Santa House during the Christmas in the Park Celebration. Bouquets to Mr. Kumpf and his committee.
- Some materials have been purchased for shelter repair.
- The Fishing Fun Day was the best yet! The parents and children were most appreciative.
- The Born Learning Trail is completed, and a thank you letter from Mary Yelton was read.
- The final park budget is \$208,000—down from the first "cut" budget of \$236,131. The \$208,000 budget cuts results in lost positions, reduction in pool hours, reduction in pool staff, and reduction in park maintenance. The 17% cuts are critical to the operation of the parks. Reporting from a budget

meeting where no Board members were in attendance, the *Brazil Times*, Oct. 2, 2009, reported:” The Council did express comfort that no staffing and minimal service cuts had to be made, and they were still able to provide a 3 percent increase in pay for all city employees, excluding elected officials, who will not receive an income increase of any type.”

The Board wants the public to know that the news story is incorrect. There was much discussion on differences on dollar amounts, the wrong budget being distributed, etc. However, Mayor Bradshaw is working tirelessly on this to get the budget amount increased. The City Council will vote on the budget October 13, 2009.

- Since Yankee Rose is not taking yard and tree waste for chipping, Mike Head has asked permission to still use Craig Park to handle this. The Board did not vote, but as a consensus, gave Mr. Head permission to do so if the area is cleared and maintained.
- Mr. Houck mentioned that David Smith would like to clean up around the south side of the Craig Park Lake. Again, no vote but Superintendent Houck will oversee this.
- Linda Messmer is proposing having a “Brazil ,Indiana Olympics” to coincide with the real Olympics in Rio De Janriro in 2016. She handed the Board her written proposal for their perusal. The vote on this will come later.
- The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Caroline McCullough, Secretary